



DATE: May 2007

TO: Holders of AHCCCS Medical Policy Manuals

FROM: Claire Sinay, Manager
Maureen Sharp, Medical Policy Manager
Office of Medical Policy and Programs, AHCCCS

SUBJECT: AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)
Update, May 2007

We have several policy revisions this month.

Chapter 300, Policy 320

The Health and Behavioral Intervention policy has been modified and relocated. Previously this section was located within Policy 310, Covered Services. The agency has determined that a more appropriate location for this section is within Policy 320, Services with Special Circumstances.

The intent of the section has not changed. As stated in the policy, "Health and behavioral assessment procedures (CPT Codes 96150-96155) are used to identify and treat the psychological, behavioral, emotional, cognitive, and social factors important to the prevention, treatment and management of physical health problems." In this revision of the policy the language is expanded to more fully explain the use of the applicable CPT codes. It should also be noted that the use of these codes is limited to 48 units annually. Individuals with mental health treatment needs exceeding the scope or duration described in the policy should be appropriately referred for behavioral health services that will require the specific use of behavioral health codes.

Effective date of revision to Policy 320 is 5/01/07. Questions related to changes to this section should be directed to Kristin Frounfelker (602) 417-4214.

Chapter 900, Policy 950

In February 2007 AHCCCS revised Chapter 900, Quality Management and Performance Improvement Program, in its entirety.

On review, it was determined that the following requirement, “Evidence of continuing medical education for cultural competency” was added in error. Although the requirement was included in error, AHCCCS and AHCCCS Contractors continue to work collaboratively to promote cultural competence within the provider community.

The effective date of the revision to Policy 950 is 5/01/07. Questions related to changes to Chapter 900 should be directed to Kim Elliott at (602) 417-4782.

Chapter 1100, Entire Chapter

Update relates to Padilla v. Rodgers Lawsuit: End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Dialysis Services for Members of the Federal Emergency Service Program (FES).

As a result of the February 26, 2007 Consent Decree in the Padilla v. Rodgers lawsuit, the AHCCCS Administration will cover dialysis services for members of the FES program when certain requirements are met.

This settlement requires the AHCCCS Administration to:

- Provide coverage for medically necessary dialysis services as an emergency service for all persons with ESRD who qualify for the FES program.
- Provide notice and opportunity for hearing when coverage for dialysis services are denied or terminated as an emergency medical service under the FES program.
- Provide notice and opportunity for hearing when a claim for dialysis services is denied as an emergency medical service for an FES member.
- Provide prior authorization when a monthly certification for emergency dialysis services is completed by the provider.

Note: A provider is not required to obtain prior authorization for emergency dialysis services.

Policy 310 and Policy 820 refer the reader to Chapter 1100. These references have also been revised in accordance with the revised policy.

The effective date of revisions to this policy is May 15, 2007. Questions related to changes to Chapter 1100 should be directed to AHCCCS Prior Authorization Unit at 602-417-7548.

TO UPDATE YOUR AMPM:

Main Table of Contents

Replace the Main Table of Contents with the revised TOC.

Chapter 300

Replace the Chapter Table of Contents with the revised TOC.

Replace pages 310-11 through 310-12 with the revised pages 310-11 through 310-12.

Replace pages 310-15 through 310-77 with the revised pages 310-15 through 310-75.

Replace pages 320-11 through 320-27 with the revised pages 320-11 through 320-30.

Chapter 800

Replace pages 820-5 through 820-6 with the revised pages 820-5 through 820-6.

Chapter 900

Replace pages 950-1 through 950-9 with the revised pages 950-1 through 950-9.

Chapter 1100

Replace entire Chapter with the revised Chapter 1100.

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